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DOVE SEASON TO OPEN ON
SEPTEMBER 21 IN SOUTH

Dove shooting in Southern States will begin and end 10 days earlier than originally provided for in the 1935 hunting regulations, the U. S. Biological Survey announced today (Aug. 29).

Approved in a proclamation by President Roosevelt, the new amendment to the Federal regulations makes the mourning-dove season September 21 to January 5 in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California.

Formerly set to open on October 1 and close on January 15, the season was changed to equalize privileges of dove hunters throughout the country, following numerous protests from the Southern States, the Bureau explained. State laws prohibiting October and early November dove shooting in the interest of upland game birds resulted in a practically closed season on doves in some States under the original provisions of this year's Federal regulations.

The President's proclamation also included amendments to clarify regulations that inadvertently made restrictions not intended. One of the provisions corrected would have made 4 p. m., the daily closing time for waterfowl hunting, apply also to the shooting of rails (other than coot), woodcock, mourning doves, and band-tailed pigeons. The new amendment provides that these birds may be hunted from 7 a. m. until sunset. A second correction will make it possible for hunters in blinds or legal floating craft to hunt within 100 feet of natural vegetation that may be some distance from shore. The original provision limited hunting to areas within 100 feet of vegetation continuous with the shore, a degree of restriction not essential to the regulation's purpose of preventing open-water shooting of the diving ducks, which have been found to be more seriously depleted in numbers than other species.